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Serial No. 09/675,252
Response to Office Action dated March 24, 2004

Amendments to Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Canceled).

Claim 2 (Currently Amended):   The accounting and reconciliation ~~account reconciliating~~ system as set forth in claim 20 ~~1~~, wherein:

said seller terminal ~~claiming means further~~ includes an ~~estimate~~ input device usable by the seller to input ~~means for inputting~~ an estimate ~~by the supplier~~ in response to an estimate ~~accordance with a~~ request ~~for an estimate~~ from the buyer for a product ~~the products~~ or service ~~services~~ to be supplied, ~~and~~

said seller terminal ~~third data processing means~~ creates estimate data based on the estimate ~~input~~, and sends the estimate data ~~created~~ to said buyer terminal ~~said paying means via said third communicating means~~, and

said buyer terminal ~~first data processing means of said paying means~~ receives the estimate data ~~via said first communicating means~~, and creates the purchase request ~~accounting application~~ data based on the received estimate data ~~received~~.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended):   The accounting and reconciliation ~~account reconciliating~~ system as set forth in claim 2, wherein:

said buyer terminal ~~paying means further~~ includes a display ~~means~~ for displaying content of the received estimate data ~~received~~, and an input ~~operating~~ device usable by ~~means for allowing~~ the buyer to accept ~~make an acceptance operation of~~ the content of the displayed estimate data ~~displayed~~, and

said buyer terminal ~~first data processing means~~ creates the purchase request ~~accounting application~~ data upon acceptance of the content of the estimate data ~~by said operating means~~.

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Claim 4 (Currently Amended):   The accounting and reconciliation ~~account reconciliating~~ system as set forth in claim 3, wherein:

the estimate data contains information which specifies first and second ~~a usual~~ payment methods ~~method of the counter value in said accounting and account reconciliating system and an alternate payment method in replacement of the usual payment method~~, and

said buyer terminal prompts ~~first data processing means of said paying means asks~~ the buyer via said display ~~means~~ to confirm that the second ~~whether to make payment of the counter value by the alternate~~ payment method may be used if the first ~~in case where payment of the counter value by the usual~~ payment method fails ~~due to system failure~~.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended):   The accounting and reconciliation ~~account reconciliating~~ system as set forth in claim 20 ~~1~~, wherein:

said buyer terminal ~~paying means further~~ includes an input device usable by the buyer to input ~~information setting means for setting at least one~~ information which relates to one or more of an effective period of the purchase request data ~~accounting application~~, delivery date of the product ~~products~~ or service ~~services~~, delivery method of the product ~~products~~ or service ~~services~~, possibility of separate delivery, and due date of payment from a bank, and

said buyer terminal incorporates the input ~~first data processing means contains~~ information ~~set by said information setting means~~ in the purchase request ~~accounting application~~ data.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended):   The accounting and reconciliation ~~account reconciliating~~ system as set forth in claim 20 ~~1~~, wherein:

said reconciliation unit changes ~~reconciliating means further includes condition setting means for setting or changing~~ the purchase transaction conditions included in the purchase request data ~~of products or services and purchase conditions of the acknowledgement data~~, and

said reconciliation unit includes ~~second data processing means contains~~ the changed purchase transaction conditions ~~and the purchase conditions set by said condition setting means~~ in the credit data.

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Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The accounting and ~~reconciliation account~~ reconciliation ~~reconciliating~~ system as set forth in claim 6, wherein:

the ~~purchase~~ purchase transaction conditions ~~comprise~~ comprise ~~contain~~ information which relates to delivery date of ~~the product~~ the product ~~products~~ or ~~service~~ service ~~services~~, delivery method, and possibility of separate delivery.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The accounting and ~~reconciliation account~~ reconciliation ~~reconciliating~~ system as set forth in claim 6, wherein:

the purchase ~~transaction~~ transaction conditions ~~comprise~~ comprise ~~of the acknowledgement data contain~~ information of ~~a~~ a purchase price ~~of the product or service~~ of the product or service ~~of the acknowledgement data~~.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): The accounting and ~~reconciliation account~~ reconciliation ~~reconciliating~~ system as set forth in claim 6, wherein:

said ~~reconciliation unit~~ reconciliation unit ~~reconciliating means~~ further ~~comprises a~~ comprises a ~~includes~~ memory ~~means~~ for storing ~~the transaction conditions and~~ the purchase ~~transaction~~ transaction conditions ~~of the acknowledgement data~~, and

said ~~reconciliation unit sends the payment to the seller terminal~~ reconciliation unit sends the payment to the seller terminal ~~second data processing means purchases the acknowledgement data~~ when the supplied content of the ~~product~~ product ~~products~~ or ~~service~~ service ~~services~~ included in the acknowledgement data satisfies the ~~purchase transaction~~ purchase transaction conditions stored in said memory ~~means~~.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): The accounting and ~~reconciliation account~~ reconciliation ~~reconciliating~~ system as set forth in claim ~~20~~ 20 ~~1~~, wherein:

said ~~seller terminal~~ seller terminal ~~claiming means further~~ includes ~~an input device usable by the seller~~ an input device usable by the seller ~~confirming means for asking the supplier~~ to confirm ~~as to~~ content of the credit data received from said ~~reconciliation unit~~ reconciliation unit ~~reconciliating means~~, and

said ~~seller terminal~~ seller terminal ~~third data processing means~~ destroys the credit data, terminates supply of ~~the product~~ the product ~~products~~ or ~~service~~ service ~~services~~, and changes ~~the purchase~~ the purchase transaction conditions ~~for said reconciliating means and said paying means~~ when there is no ~~confirmation by~~ confirmation by

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~~acceptance of~~ the <u>seller</u> ~~supplier from said confirming means~~ with regard to <u>the</u> content of the credit data.

    Claim 11 (Currently Amended): The accounting and <u>reconciliation</u> ~~account reconciliating~~ system as set forth in claim <u>20</u> ~~1~~, wherein:

    said <u>seller terminal</u> ~~third data processing means of said claiming means~~ creates delivery list data based on content of the credit data, and sends the delivery list data ~~created~~ to said <u>buyer terminal</u> ~~paying means via said third communicating means~~.

    Claim 12 (Currently Amended): The accounting and <u>reconciliation</u> ~~account reconciliating~~ system as set forth in claim 11, wherein the acknowledgement data contains information which relates to ~~as to~~ whether <u>the product</u> ~~products~~ or <u>service</u> ~~services~~ listed in the delivery list data <u>has</u> ~~have~~ been supplied to the buyer.

    Claim 13 (Currently Amended): The accounting and <u>reconciliation</u> ~~account reconciliating~~ system as set forth in claim <u>20</u> ~~1~~, wherein:

    said <u>seller terminal</u> ~~third data processing means of said claiming means~~ sends <u>receipt</u> data ~~which corresponds to a receipt~~ to said <u>reconciliation unit</u> ~~reconciliating means via said third communicating means~~ when the <u>payment data is received</u> ~~acknowledgement data was purchased by said reconciliating means~~, and

    said <u>reconciliation unit</u> ~~second data processing means of said reconciliating means~~ bills the buyer for ~~the payment of the counter value for~~ the <u>product</u> ~~supplied products~~ or <u>service</u> ~~services~~ after receiving the <u>receipt</u> data ~~which corresponds to a receipt via said second communicating means~~.

    Claim 14 (Currently Amended): The accounting and account reconciliating system as set forth in claim <u>20</u> ~~1~~, wherein:

    said <u>reconciliation unit</u> ~~second data processing means of said reconciliating means~~ uses the same credit data <u>if</u> ~~in case where~~ the buyer and the <u>seller</u> ~~supplier~~ remain unchanged and when the same <u>purchase</u> transaction is repeated.

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Claim 15 (Currently Amended):   The accounting and <u>reconciliation</u> ~~account reconciliating~~ system as set forth in claim <u>20</u> ~~1~~, wherein said <u>buyer terminal comprises</u> ~~paying means is~~ a cellular phone.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended):   An accounting and <u>reconciliation</u> ~~account reconciliating~~ method <u>for a system</u> which includes:

a <u>buyer terminal for a buyer</u> ~~paying means including first communicating means for establishing communications, said paying means for applying for accounting in transactions between a buyer and a supplier~~;

a <u>reconciliation unit</u> ~~reconciliating means including second communicating means for establishing communications, said reconciliating means for arbitrating account reconciliation in the transactions~~; and

a <u>seller terminal for a seller</u> ~~claiming means including third communicating means for establishing communications, said claiming means for claiming a counter value in the transactions~~,

said accounting and <u>reconciliation</u> ~~account reconciliating~~ method <u>for</u> <u>mediating a purchase transaction between the buyer and the seller</u> ~~carrying out accounting and account reconciliation by communications between said paying means, said reconciliating means, and said claiming means~~, and comprising ~~the steps of~~:

(1) creating in said <u>buyer terminal purchase request data</u> ~~paying means accounting application data for applying for accounting and account reconciliation~~ for <u>a product</u> ~~products~~ or <u>service</u> ~~services~~ ordered by the buyer ~~to the supplier~~, and sending the <u>purchase request</u> ~~accounting application~~ data to said <u>reconciliation unit</u> ~~reconciliating means via said first communicating means~~;

(2) creating in said <u>reconciliation unit</u> ~~reconciliating means~~ electronic credit data based on the <u>purchase request</u> ~~accounting application~~ data sent from said <u>buyer terminal</u> ~~paying means~~, and sending the electronic credit data ~~created~~ to said <u>seller terminal</u> ~~claiming means from said second communicating means~~, said electronic credit data <u>guaranteeing</u> ~~for guarantee of~~ account reconciliation by said <u>reconciliation unit</u> ~~reconciliating means~~ for the <u>product</u> ~~supplied products~~

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or <u>service supplied by the seller</u> ~~services~~ and <u>comprising</u> ~~containing~~ information which specifies <u>purchase</u> transaction conditions <u>for</u> ~~of~~ the <u>product</u> ~~products~~ or <u>service</u> ~~services~~;

(3) creating in said <u>seller terminal</u> ~~claiming means~~ electronic record data which satisfies the <u>purchase</u> transaction conditions specified by the electronic credit data sent from said <u>reconciliation unit</u> ~~reconciliating means~~, and sending the electronic record data created to said <u>reconciliation unit</u> ~~reconciliating means via said third communicating means~~; and

(4) <u>receiving</u> ~~purchasing~~ in said <u>reconciliation unit</u> ~~reconciliating means~~ the electronic record data from said <u>seller terminal</u> ~~claiming means~~, and thereafter billing the buyer for ~~the~~ payment <u>for the product or service</u> ~~of the counter value so as to redeem money~~ upon confirmation that the electronic record data sent from said <u>seller terminal</u> ~~claiming means~~ satisfies the <u>purchase</u> transaction conditions contained in the electronic credit data.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended):   An account <u>reconciliation</u> ~~reconciliating~~ server which guarantees account reconciliation in <u>purchase</u> transactions between <u>a buyer</u> ~~paying means which creates accounting application data for applying for accounting with respect to products or services ordered by a buyer to a supplier~~ and <u>a seller of a product or service</u> ~~claiming means by which the supplier claims a counter value~~,

said account <u>reconciliation</u> ~~reconciliating~~ server comprising:

<u>a</u> communicating <u>circuit</u> ~~means~~ for establishing communications with each of <u>a buyer terminal of the buyer</u> ~~said paying means~~ and <u>a seller terminal of the seller</u> ~~said claiming means~~;

credit data creating means for creating, based on <u>purchase request</u> ~~the accounting application~~ data received <u>from the buyer terminal</u>, credit data including information which specifies <u>purchase</u> transaction conditions <u>for</u> ~~of~~ the <u>product</u> ~~products~~ or <u>service</u> ~~services~~, and sending the credit data created to said <u>seller terminal</u> ~~claiming means~~, said credit data <u>guaranteeing</u> ~~for guarantee of~~ account reconciliation <u>for</u> ~~of~~ the <u>product</u> ~~products~~ or <u>service</u> ~~services supplied~~;

delivery list creating means <u>for creating and sending to said buyer terminal</u> ~~which when received from the supplier products or services which are based on content of the credit data and when the content satisfies the transaction conditions in the credit data, pays a counter value of the products or services to the claiming means, and creates~~ delivery list data <u>relating to delivery</u>

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of the product or service when the product or service is received from the seller ~~which indicates supply content of the products or services, and sends the delivery list data created to said paying means~~; and

~~counter value~~ claiming means which, when ~~received from said paying means~~ acceptance data for the delivery list data is received from the buyer terminal, causes the ~~supplies~~ the product ~~products~~ or service to be delivered ~~services supplied by the supplier~~ to the buyer, and sends a claim to ~~claims~~ the buyer for payment for ~~a counter value of~~ the product ~~products~~ or service ~~services so as to redeem the counter value~~.

Claim 18 (Canceled).

Claim 19 (Currently Amended):   An account reconciliation ~~reconciliating~~ server which guarantees account reconciliation in a purchase transaction ~~transactions~~ between ~~paying means which creates accounting application data for applying for accounting with respect to products or services ordered by~~ a buyer and ~~to~~ a seller of a product or service ~~supplier and claiming means by which the supplier claims a counter value~~,

said account reconciliation ~~reconciliating~~ server comprising:

a communicating circuit ~~means~~ for establishing communications with each of a buyer terminal for the buyer ~~said paying means~~ and a seller terminal for the seller ~~said claiming means~~;

credit data creating means for creating, based on purchase request data for the product or service supplied from the buyer terminal ~~the accounting application data received~~, credit data including information which specifies purchase transaction conditions for ~~of~~ the product ~~products~~ or service ~~services~~, and sending the credit data ~~created~~ to said seller terminal ~~claiming means~~, said credit data guaranteeing payment to the seller for the supplying ~~for guarantee of account reconciliation~~ of the product ~~products~~ or service ~~services supplied~~; and

~~counter value~~ claiming means for, when ~~received~~ acknowledgement data is received via said seller terminal ~~claiming means~~, sending payment data to ~~for purchasing the acknowledgement data upon confirmation of its content, and paying~~ said seller terminal ~~claiming means a counter value~~ for the product ~~supplied products~~ or service ~~services~~, while billing the buyer for ~~the~~ payment for the product or service ~~of the counter value so as to redeem money~~, said

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acknowledgement data being issued by said <u>buyer terminal</u> ~~paying means~~ when the buyer receives from the <u>seller the product</u> ~~supplier products~~ or <u>service</u> ~~services~~ which <u>is</u> ~~are~~ based on content of the credit data and when the content satisfies the <u>purchase</u> transaction conditions in the credit data.

Claim 20 (New): An accounting and reconciliation system comprising:

a seller terminal for a seller, the seller terminal receiving credit data guaranteeing payment for a product or service, and receiving payment data for the product or service;

a buyer terminal for a buyer, the buyer terminal sending purchase request data including purchase transaction information which specifies purchase transaction conditions for the product or service;

a reconciliation unit for mediating a purchase transaction between the buyer and the seller in response to receiving the purchase request data sent from the buyer terminal, the reconciliation unit comprising:

communication circuitry for communicating with the buyer terminal and the seller terminal; and

a processing system responsive to the purchase request data for sending the credit data to the seller terminal, and for sending the payment data to the seller terminal after receiving acknowledgment data indicative of the buyer's acknowledgment of receipt of the product or service.

Claim 21 (New): An accounting and reconciliation system comprising:

a seller terminal for a seller, the seller terminal receiving credit data guaranteeing payment for a product or service, and receiving payment data for the product or service;

a buyer terminal for a buyer, the buyer terminal sending purchase request data including purchase transaction information which specifies purchase transaction conditions for the product or service, receiving delivery list data relating to delivery of the product or service, and sending acceptance data in response to the delivery list data; and

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a reconciliation unit for mediating a purchase transaction between the buyer and the seller in response to receiving the purchase request data sent from the buyer terminal to the reconciliation unit, the reconciliation unit comprising:

communication circuitry for communicating with the buyer terminal and the seller terminal; and

a processing system responsive to the purchase request data for sending the credit data to the seller terminal and for sending the payment data to the seller terminal after the product or service is supplied from the seller.

Claim 22 (New): A reconciliation unit for an accounting and reconciliation system comprising a seller terminal for a seller, the seller terminal receiving credit data guaranteeing payment for a product or service, and receiving payment data for the product or service, and a buyer terminal for a buyer, the buyer terminal sending purchase request data containing purchase transaction information which specifies purchase transaction conditions for the product or service, wherein the reconciliation unit mediates a purchase transaction between the buyer and the seller in response to receiving the purchase request data sent from the buyer terminal, the reconciliation unit comprising:

communication circuitry for communicating with the buyer terminal and the seller terminal; and

a processing system responsive to the purchase request data for sending the credit data to the seller terminal and for sending the payment data to the seller terminal after receiving acknowledgment data indicative of the buyer's acknowledgment of receipt of the product or service.

Claim 23 (New): A reconciliation unit for an accounting and reconciliation system comprising a seller terminal for a seller, the seller terminal receiving credit data guaranteeing payment for a product or service, and receiving payment data for the product or service, and a buyer terminal for a buyer, the buyer terminal sending purchase request data including purchase transaction information which specifies purchase transaction conditions for the product or service, receiving delivery list data relating to delivery of the product or service, and sending

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acceptance data in response to the delivery list data, wherein the reconciliation unit mediates a purchase transaction between the buyer and the seller in response to receiving the purchase request data sent from the buyer terminal, the reconciliation unit comprising:

communication circuitry for communicating with the buyer terminal and the seller terminal; and

a processing system responsive to the purchase request data for sending the credit data to the seller terminal, and for sending the payment data to the seller terminal after the product or service is supplied from the seller.

Claim 24 (New):   A buyer terminal for a buyer for use in an accounting and reconciliation system comprising a seller terminal for a seller, the seller terminal receiving credit data guaranteeing payment for a product or service, and receiving payment data for the product or service, and a reconciliation unit for mediating a purchase transaction between the buyer and the seller in response to receiving purchase request data, the reconciliation unit comprising communication circuitry for communicating with the buyer terminal and the seller terminal, and a processing system responsive to the purchase request data for sending the credit data to the seller terminal and for sending the payment data to the seller terminal after receiving acknowledgment data indicative of the buyer's acknowledgment of receipt of the product or service, the buyer terminal comprising:

communication circuitry for communicating with the seller terminal and the reconciliation unit;

one or more input devices;

a processing system for sending the purchase request data to the reconciliation unit, the purchase request data including purchase transaction information which specifies purchase transaction conditions for the product or service, and for sending the acknowledgement of receipt of the product or service to the reconciliation unit in response an input by the buyer using the one or more input devices.

Claim 25 (New):   A seller terminal for a seller for use in an accounting and reconciliation system comprising a buyer terminal for a buyer, the buyer terminal sending

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purchase request data including purchase transaction information which specifies purchase transaction conditions for a product or service, and a reconciliation unit for mediating a purchase transaction between the buyer and the seller in response to receiving the purchase request data sent from the buyer terminal, the reconciliation unit comprising communication circuitry for communicating with the buyer terminal and the seller terminal, and a processing system responsive to the purchase request data for sending credit data guaranteeing payment for the product or service and for sending payment data for the product or service after receiving acknowledgment data indicative of the buyer's acknowledgment of receipt of the product or service, the seller terminal comprising:

communication circuitry for communicating with the buyer terminal and the reconciliation unit; and

a processing system for receiving the credit data and the payment data from the reconciliation unit.

Claim 26 (New):   A buyer terminal for a buyer for use in an accounting and reconciliation system comprising a seller terminal for a seller, the seller terminal receiving credit data guaranteeing payment for a product or service, and receiving payment data for the product or service, and a reconciliation unit for mediating a purchase transaction between the buyer and the seller in response to receiving purchase request data, the reconciliation unit comprising communication circuitry for communicating with the buyer terminal and the seller terminal, and a processing system responsive to the purchase request data for sending the credit data to the seller terminal and for sending the payment data to the seller terminal after the product or service is supplied from the seller, the buyer terminal comprising:

communication circuitry for communicating with the seller terminal and the reconciliation unit;

one or more input devices;

a processing system for sending the purchase request data to the reconciliation unit, the purchase request data including purchase transaction information which specifies purchase transaction conditions for the product or service, for receiving delivery list data relating to

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delivery of the product or service, and for sending acceptance data input using the one or more input devices in response to the delivery list data.

Claim 27 (New): A seller terminal for a seller for use in an accounting and reconciliation system comprising a buyer terminal for a buyer, the buyer terminal sending purchase request data including purchase transaction information which specifies purchase transaction conditions for the product or service, receiving delivery list data relating to delivery of the product or service, and sending acceptance data in response to the delivery list data, and a reconciliation unit for mediating a purchase transaction between the buyer and the seller in response to receiving the purchase request data sent from the buyer terminal, the reconciliation unit comprising communication circuitry for communicating with the buyer terminal and the seller terminal and a processing system responsive to the purchase request data for sending credit data to the seller terminal and for sending the payment data to the seller terminal after the product or service is supplied from the seller, the seller terminal comprising:

communication circuitry for communicating with the buyer terminal and the reconciliation unit; and

a processing system for receiving the credit data and the payment data from the reconciliation unit.

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Amendment to the Title:

Please change the title of the application to the following:

ACCOUNTING AND RECONCILIATION SYSTEM